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# **THESE ARE THE FACTS**



**An Authentic Record  
of Alberta's Progress**

**1935 - 1948**

## Foreword

This booklet has been prepared to give you an outline of the outstanding progress and development of your Province together with concise and accurate information on the achievements of your Social Credit Government.

The information has been kept to essentials to give you this **Record of Achievement AT A GLANCE**.

Should you wish to obtain further details on any of the services described, or information on statistics given, write to the Publicity Branch, Government of the Province of Alberta, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton, Alberta.

## **ALBERTA'S FUTURE**

Alberta today has the brightest outlook of any Canadian Province. Through the individual enterprise of her progressive people and the careful management of her public affairs, she has attained to a position of leadership in opportunity unequalled by any other Province.

Alberta has now reached a position where all her people can reap the benefits of a continuously expanding program of sound, economic and industrial development made possible by the richness and diversification of her vast natural resources and by public confidence in her future.

Alberta's financial stability is second to no other Province. Her social legislation is the most advanced in Canada. Alberta has gained this enviable position under the sound and progressive administration of her S.C. Government. This outstanding progress has been achieved despite the financial restrictions imposed by an antiquated and monopolistic national monetary system and by the constitutional limitations in the financial field imposed on the Provinces by the British North America Act.

Freed from these handicaps Alberta's progress and development could readily be such as to speedily ensure to all her citizens a full measure of social and economic security and a standard of living commensurate with her vast productive capacity.

The fixed and determined policy of the Social Credit Government of Alberta is three-fold:

1. To continue, and progressively extend, the sound program of social progress and economic development which has brought Alberta to the advanced position she occupies today.
2. To make secure the right of each citizen to exercise freedom of action and individual initiative and enterprise, free from bureaucratic state interference and the domination of any form of monopoly control.
3. To continue to strive by every lawful means to remove the constitutional barriers and financial restrictions which stand in the way of the people's best interests and hinder the establishment of a true economic democracy affording to all citizens an opportunity to enjoy a full measure of social justice, economic security and individual freedom.

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## **PROVINCIAL DEBT SLASHED**

**Alberta's Social Credit Government has greatly eased the Public Debt burden of the people**

**HERE ARE THE FACTS:**

### **Net Funded Debt & Guarantees**

	March 31, 1936	March 31, 1948	Decrease
Net debenture debt....	\$117,514,000	\$108,564,000	\$ 8,950,000

Net guaranteed			
debtenture debt ..	5,672,000	57,000	5,615,000
Treasury Bills ..	25,427,000	12,883,000	12,544,000
Net Funded Debt			
& Guarantees ...	\$148,613,000	\$121,504,000	\$27,109,000

### Net Unfunded Debt

Savings			
Certificates .....	\$ 9,286,000	\$ 1,038,000	
Bank Loans .....	5,700,000		
Pension Fund .....	2,234,000	4,890,000	
Miscellaneous .....	1,194,000	580,000	
Net Unfunded			
Debt .....	\$ 18,414,000	\$ 6,508,000	\$11,906,000
Public Debt .....	\$167,027,000	\$128,012,000	\$39,015,000

Retirement of the Net Funded and Guaranteed Debt amounting to \$121,504,000 has been provided for as follows:

- (1) Debentures amounting to \$108,621,000 to be retired on a serial basis over 32 years: interest rates from  $2\frac{1}{4}\%$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (Debt Re-Organization Programme).
- (2) Treasury Bills amounting to \$12,883,000 to be retired on a serial basis over 30 years;

\$7,586,000—Interest at  $2\frac{5}{8}\%$   
5,297,000—No Interest

(By Settlement of Treasury Bills with Dominion Gov't., \$5,297,000 were cancelled).

## INTEREST BURDEN LIGHTENED

In 1935-36 Public Debt charges amounted to 51% of net Provincial revenue.

In 1947-48 Public Debt charges, including debt retirement, amounted to less than 14% of net Provincial revenue.

### Average Interest Rate

1946.....	4.80%
1947.....	3.37%
1948.....	3.21%

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## ALBERTA AGRICULTURE LEADS

Agriculture is our key industry. As our farmers prosper so do all Albertans. Therefore, a stabilized agriculture is essential.

To this end the Social Credit Government of Alberta has inaugurated or expanded the following agricultural policies:

### IMPROVED

#### Live Stock Policies

	1905-37	1938-47
Purebred bulls distributed ....	232	3,431
Purebred boars .....	nil	2,058
Purebred sows .....	nil	126
Joint sow distribution policy	nil	5,635
Purebred sheep .....	nil	392

## **NEW Feeder Associations Guarantee Act**

### **Inaugurated 1938**

Permits farmers or feeders to organize for the purchase and feeding of live stock under supervision and **WITHOUT RISK OF FINANCIAL LOSS.**

\* \* \*

## **NEW Free Veterinary Laboratory**

Established by Social Credit Government in 1940.

Number of specimens examined at no cost to farmer .....	10,620
Number blood samples tested for Bangs disease .....	24,000
Calves vaccinated .....	8,170

**Purpose** — To aid in reducing farmer losses due to animal diseases.

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## **IMPROVED**

### **District Agriculturists**

Number in 1935 .....	9
Number in 1947 .....	34

From nine in 1935, the Social Credit Government has placed a District Agriculturist at the disposal of farmers in every district in the entire Province.

## **NEW**

### **District Home Economists**

Number in 1935 .....	nil
Number in 1947 .....	10

## **NEW**

### **Farm and Home Junior Clubs Encouraged**

Farm clubs in 1947 .....	165
Home clubs in 1947 .....	95
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>260</b>

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## **NEW**

### **Dairy Industry Service**

1. Cost of milk production service.
2. Specialized supervisor of cheese factories.
3. Mastitis Control.
4. Dairy laboratory service.
5. Diploma Dairy Course for training of cheese factory and creamery personnel.
6. Dairy herd improvement policy.

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## **IMPROVED**

### **Frozen Food Locker Industry**

	1944	1948
No. plants operating .....	33	100
No. lockers .....	8,900	28,000

\* \* \*

## **IMPROVED**

### **Poultry Industry**

Demonstration and breeding plant maintained by department.

Licensing and bonding of dealers.

Meetings, field days conducted throughout the Province.



## **NEW                      Field Crop Program**

### **Forage Crop Encouragement Policy:**

1. Conserving and making available to farmers of Alberta forage crop seed including grasses and clovers in quantity and at reasonable prices.
2. To aid in the stabilizing of farm income, live stock and dairy industry and to promote soil conservation.

Distribution of seed — bushels:

1942	1947
264,000	637,000

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## **IMPROVED**

### **Special Beekeeping Services**

	1935	1946
No. beekeepers .....	1,000	10,500
Honey production (pounds)	1,850,00	6,200,000
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## **FARM LABOUR POLICY**

Alberta farmers aided by joint Dominion-Provincial Farm Labor Service set up in 1942 and carried through to this year. Policy resulted in farmers obtaining assistance when required in rush harvest seasons.

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## **EXPENDITURES**

### **Department of Agriculture—Income Account**

	1936-37	1948-49
Total Expenditures .....	\$ 422,000	1,246,000

## **PROGRESSIVE LABOUR LEGISLATION**

Alberta protects the rights of the working man through labour legislation that is among the most advanced in Canada.

### **Steps have been taken to provide for:**

- Reasonable Hours of Work
- Minimum Wages
- Labour Welfare:
  - Safe working conditions
  - Safeguarding health
  - Holidays with pay
- Industrial Standards
- Conciliation and Arbitration
- Tradesmen's Qualification
- Industrial Wages Security:
  - Mine Workers
  - Lumber Workers
- Apprenticeship
- Trade Schools Regulation

\* \* \*

### **LABOUR Prior to 1935**

In 1935 the legislation in Alberta for protection of workers was administered by a Bureau of Labour and consisted of:

**The Factories Act; The Boilers Act**—These are continued today.

**The Minimum Wage Act (1925)**—Orders only applicable to female employees in towns over 600 population.

**The Employment Offices Act**—Later taken over by the Dominion.

**The Industrial Standards Act**—No agreements made up to 1935.

\* \* \*

### **Progress Since 1935**

In 1936 the Bureau of Labour was replaced by the Board of Industrial Relations and modern, progressive labour legislation enacted:

**The Minimum Wage Act (1925)**—The old orders have been revised and extended to apply throughout the Province.

**The Industrial Standards Act**—Twenty-seven Industrial Wage Schedules are now in effect with two in the course of being completed throughout the Province.

\* \* \*

### **LABOUR LEGISLATION OF THE SOCIAL CREDIT GOVERNMENT TO 1943:**

**The Male Minimum Wage Act (1936)**—First general wage order in Canada. Basic wages set for all except farm and domestic labour. Also provided a minimum wage of one and one-half times the ordinary rate of wages paid to employees for overtime worked. The first such wage order in Canada.

**The Hours of Work Act (1936)**—Schedule of hours set and weekly day of rest provided.

**The Tradesmen's Qualification Act (1936)**—Protects qualified skilled tradesmen and the public from inferior competition and workmanship and assures safety measures to protect workers from injury while working and to protect public safety while using services or products of skilled labour.

**The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (1938)**—Grants to labour full collective bargaining rights, protects workers against discrimination and provides for conciliation and arbitration of disputes.

**The Mining Industry Wages Security Act (1938)**—Provides guarantee for payment of wages of workers in coal mines. Provisions of the Act now extend to the lumber industry.

**The Trade Schools Regulation Act (1941)**—Protects students from inferior instruction by setting high standards required of trade schools whether practical or by correspondence. Alberta's legislation has been copied in other provinces.

**The Labour Welfare Act (1943)**—Safe and sanitary working conditions, prompt payment of wages required by law.

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## **NEW LEGISLATION**

At the Session of the Legislature in 1947, of the foregoing Acts the following were amalgamated into one complete Act, The Alberta Labour Act, chapter 8, 1947.

The Minimum Wage Act (Female)

The Male Minimum Wage Act

The Hours of Work Act

The Industrial Standards Act  
The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act  
The Labour Welfare Act

The new Act is more readily understood and contains amendments based on past experience which make it an outstanding piece of labour legislation.

At the 1942 Session, The Mining Industry Wages Security Act (1938) was replaced by The Industrial Wages Security Act. In the spring of 1947 the lumbering industry was designated as an industry to which the Act applied and therefore the employees receive the same protection in respect of the payment of their wages as was previously provided for mine workers.

By means of improved legislation the Board of Industrial Relations has been enabled to issue Orders providing for holidays with pay for employees. This has been a real boon to thousands of employees, many of whom had never previously enjoyed a paid holiday.

Regular government inspection of industry and working conditions is carried on throughout the Province:

\* \* \*

**From 1943 to 31st March, 1948**

No. of Inspections .....	122,390
Wages collected .....	\$ 256,283.89
No. of employees who benefited ..	12,870
Wage increases (effected through inspections) .....	\$ 735,156.24
No of employees who benefited ..	2,445

### **Apprenticeship Act (1944)**

In 1944 serious consideration was given to the problems of creating some plan for assistance in the rehabilitation of Veterans. This was tied up with the need of training more young men in the various trades. The Apprenticeship Act was passed that same year and the results from this legislation have been highly satisfactory.

Up to March 31st, 1948, twelve trades have applied for and received designation, and 2,065 apprentices have been registered in these trades, 226 apprentices have completed their training, 545 apprentices cancelled registration and left the trades, leaving 1294 apprentices still receiving training. Of this number 796 are Veterans.

\* \* \*

### **Alberta Labour Act 1948 Amendments Act (Bill 91)**

Provides the following benefits to labour:

- (a) Only trade unions and organizations can be certified as bargaining agents—thus an individual who might be subject to the influence of the employer cannot be appointed as a bargaining agent.
- (b) A collective agreement between a certified bargaining agent and the employer is binding by law on the employer, the bargaining agent and all the employees represented by the said bargaining agent.
- (c) No employee, as an individual can be compelled to sign a collective agreement entered into on his behalf by a certified bargaining agent.
- (d) An employer besides being subject to a fine

for improper dismissal of an employee exercising his rights under the Act, is now liable for the payment of wages lost due to discriminatory dismissal.

(e) The new penalty provided for illegal strikes and lock-outs cannot be imposed until three days after a Supreme Court Judge has ruled illegality.

(f) In the three days' period of grace, the employees may return to work or the employer end the lock-out without penalties.

(g) The penalty of one dollar per day is a maximum fine. It is usual on first offences for the magistrate to impose a smaller fine than the maximum provided.

(h) In case of small unions, the penalty would be much less than the maximum provided under the new Dominion Labour Code.

(i) The Labour Act provides an enabling section to permit of its administration by the Federal Government in the case of employment in the industry of coal mining or the industry of meat packing.

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## **MARKETING LEGISLATION**

Provides marketing control by producers.

**Illustration:** The Alberta Poultry Producers' Marketing Board set up in 1940 operates for poultry producers, cold storage and processing plants, egg powder plants, poultry stations, hatcheries. More than 40,000 producers aided by the return of full value of product after marketing expenses paid.

### **Provincial Marketing Board**

Gives assistance to small industries.

Unorganized producers given co-operative benefits.

Farmers have made substantial savings in the purchase of machinery replacement parts from government implement part Depots.

Weed control, hardware, and labor-saving devices supplied farmers at cost.

Veterans aided through mass purchases of home and equipment supplies.

### **Government Purchasing Agency**

Year	Purchases	Savings and Discounts
1941-45 .....	\$ 3,347,916	\$ 221,654
1946 .....	8,118,426	646,795
1947 .....	14,848,771	1,094,261

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## **CO-OPERATIVES ASSISTED**

### **Co-operatives In Operation**

	1935	1948
Consumer Co-ops .....	29	143
Dairy-poultry products .....	6	14
Livestock marketing, feeders .....	15	79
Seed and grain .....	1	5
Building associations .....	0	3
Sundry .....	0	91
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>51</b>	<b>335</b>



## Their Record

	1937	1947
Business turnover ..	\$3,330,107	\$115,698,742
Assets .....	\$2,282,263	\$ 22,377,135
Net Worth .....	\$1,270,616	\$ 15,893,396
Membership .....	29,265	241,334

CREDIT UNION ACT passed by Social Credit Government in 1938.

## Results:

	1947
Unions chartered .....	213
Number of members .....	24,057
Loans outstanding .....	\$ 2,225,109
Cash and investments .....	\$ 521,064
Sundry assets .....	\$ 13,032
TOTAL assets .....	\$ 2,759,206
Loans since inception .....	\$ 9,452,403

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## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

### TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES

Tuberculosis Act passed by Social Credit Government in 1936.

**Result**—Provision made for treatment of all residents suffering from infectious types. Way opened for vast expansion of FREE diagnostic services.

### Work of Mobile Clinics

Number X-rayed in 1943 .....	9,926
Number X-rayed in 1946 .....	226,987
Number X-rayed in 1947 .....	400,000

## **HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION INCREASED**

Number beds available in 1935 .....	270
Number beds available in 1946 .....	485

**Construction of a new 300-bed sanitorium underway at the present time.**

## **POLIOMYELITIS SERVICES**

Alberta becomes first province to provide special facilities for care of poliomyelitis victims.

In 1938, Poliomyelitis Sufferers Act passed to give FREE medical, surgical and hospital care for all residents suffering after-effects of the disease.

## **CANCER**

1940 .....	Cancer Treatment and Prevention Act
1941 .....	Free Diagnostic Clinics established

### **Result:**

	1942	1946
Patients examined .....	2,055	4,288
Patients treated .....	429	2,060
Number of patients for diagnosis and treatment in 1947 .....		5,722

## **FREE MATERNITY HOSPITALIZATION**

Another public health FIRST

1944 — Maternity Hospitalization Act

### **Result:**

Free public ward hospital care for all maternity cases.

More than 90% of the 23,000 maternity cases

each year come under hospital care.

TOTAL EXPENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT  
IN PROVIDING MATERNITY HOSPITALIZA-  
TION IN 1947 ..... \$760,000

### MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES

#### Grants

1935 ..... \$ 507,000  
(50% charged to Municipalities)  
1946-47 ..... \$ 592,655  
(Only 25% charged to Municipalities)  
(Deserted Mothers included.)

	1936	1947
Average monthly allowance		
per child .....	\$ 8.87	17.70
Average allowance		
per mother .....	20.25	38.94

### NURSING SERVICES

	1935	1947
Number of District Nurses .....	15	36

Provides FREE to residents in Rural areas the fol-  
lowing services:

- Pre-natal and post-natal care
- Free immunization services
- Regular baby clinics
- School health inspections

### DISTRICT HEALTH UNITS

	1935	1947
Number of units .....	2	17

## **HOSPITAL GRANTS**

Provincial government grants to  
approved hospitals in 1947 ..... \$ 750,280  
Number of people benefitting under  
the Municipal Hospital Plan ..... 238,788

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

Number of patients in five mental institutions  
operated by government ..... 3,201.

New buildings erected in 1947 to provide accom-  
modation for 533 patients.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ENTOMOLOGY**

First such provincial division established by Social  
Credit Government in 1944.

### **Result:**

Occurrence of Rocky Mountain Fever, tularaemia,  
encephalitis and plague investigated.

\* Immunization clinics established.  
Education in this work started.  
Research into diseases conducted.

\* \* \*

## **FREE BLOOD PLASMA**

\$30,000 donated by the Provincial Government to  
the Canadian Red Cross blood plasma service for  
the establishment of depots in Edmonton and Cal-  
gary. Alberta became the second province in the  
Dominion to have this service.

## **OLD AGE PENSIONS**

### **Maximum Pension to March, 1942**

<b>\$20.</b>	Provincial contribution .....	15 %
	Municipalities .....	10 %
	Federal .....	75 %

### **Maximum Pension after March, 1942**

**\$25**      The entire \$5.00 increase was paid  
by the Provincial Government.

### **Maximum Pension after August, 1943**

**\$30**      \$25.00 paid jointly by Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments, and an additional \$5.00 paid entirely by the Provincial Government.

### **Maximum Pension after May, 1947**

**\$35**      \$30.00 paid Jointly by Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments and an additional \$5.00 paid entirely by the Provincial Government.

### **Maximum Pension after April 1, 1948**

**\$37**      \$30.00 paid jointly by Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments; and the Province paying the total supplementary pensions of \$7.00.

**In addition the following services are provided FREE:**

Applying to Old Age and Blind Pensioners, recipients of Mothers' allowances, with dependents of each, regulations provide for **medical services, hospitalization, all forms of dental care including 50% of the cost of ALL new dentures.**

Treatment given by persons other than medical practitioners when recommended is also provided, **as are glasses** if approved by the Director of Medical and Hospital Services.

\* \* \*

**Total amount paid by Alberta toward  
Old Age Pensions, April 1st, 1944 - March 1947**

	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49 (estimated)
Alberta's share			
of basic pension .....	\$ 747,191	\$ 1,225,071	\$ 1,084,000
Supplementary			
paid by Alberta .....	804,541	857,498	1,388,500
Yearly Total .....	1,551,732	2,082,569	2,472,500
Total for above three years .....			\$6,106,801

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**BLIND PENSIONS PAID**

	1939-40	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49 (estimated)
Alberta's share .....	\$ 9,850	\$ 16,396	\$ 29,475	\$ 32,500
Dominion's share .....	28,316	60,829	74,382	128,250
Other .....	2,787	7,864	7,793	10,250
Total Paid .....	40,953	85,089	111,650	171,000

## **EXPENDITURES**

### **Health and Welfare Services—Income Account**

	1936-37	1948-49
Total Expenditure ....	\$ 2,035,000	7,717,000

Medical services and hospitalization for Old Age and Blind Pensioners and recipients of Mothers' allowances were provided for the current year at an estimated cost of \$503,000.

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## **THE ALBERTA SCHOOL SYSTEM**

### **School Divisions**

1935.....	no large school divisions
1944.....	50 large school divisions
1947.....	57 large school divisions

### **Better Supervision**

1935.....	28 Inspectors
1944.....	48 Superintendents
1947.....	53 Superintendents

### **Division Economy**

Supplies bought in large quantities at lower cost. Textbooks provided to pupils at wholesale cost or free.

### **School Book Branch**

The Branch is entirely self-supporting; but **No Profits** are made.

Since inception, it has distributed 6,400,000 copies for a total value of \$4,508,457.45.

## Libraries

Children in Alberta classrooms now have a **wider variety of good books for use in their studies** and recreational reading than ever before.

## Teaching Standards Raised

**1935** Teachers NOT recognized as a profession.

**1947** Teachers recognized with full professional standing.

**1935** Average salary to rural teacher.....\$ 722

**1947** Average salary to rural teacher.....\$ 1,460

**1935** NO retirement arrangements.

**1947 RETIREMENT FUND** in operation for all teachers. Provincial government grant of \$320,000 to school boards for pension for teachers with set minimum pension, and to make the teachers' retirement fund plan in Alberta **one of the best in Canada.**

**SPECIAL PROVISION** is made for deaf and blind children.

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## Provincial Expenditure for Education

	1936-37	Estimated 1948-49
School Grants .....	\$1,585,000	\$6,020,000
University Grants .....	400,000	1,171,000
University Capital ....		1,210,000
Total Expenditure ....	\$2,516,000	\$9,829,000

**ALBERTA** ranks high among the provinces in providing the best educational facilities obtainable.



## **MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS**

### **Modern Municipal Administration:**

59 Enlarged Districts Replace 140 Old.

#### **Result:**

Better administration.  
Greater service and economy.  
More effective local government.  
More efficient roadwork.

#### **Continued objective:**

1. Systematically decentralize government services.
2. Provide a greater measure of responsible local self-government.
3. Enable the people to obtain increased services under closer local supervision by the electors.

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### **Cancellation of Debts**

Since 1935 a total of \$47,000,000 has been CANCELLED by the Social Credit Government:

Taxes .....	\$ 8,600,000
Direct Relief .....	29,000,000
Seed and Feed Relief .....	9,600,000
Total .....	<hr/> \$ 47,200,000

### **Thousands Saved**

The Social Credit Government saved thousands of farms and homes for Alberta farmers and home

**owners — THE FIRST HOME SECURITY PROGRAM IN THE DOMINION.**

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## **A NEW DEAL FOR ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES**

Recognizing the importance of a revised and modernized basis of provincial-municipal taxation, the Social Credit Government set up the Judge Commission.

Here is a summary of that commission's recommendations:

1. Assessments of all towns, villages and hamlets to be made by members of the staff of the Director of Assessments; on request from the Municipal District the Director of Assessments will reassess any part or parts of the municipal district; on request from any city the Director of Assessments will be available to the assessor for consultation.
2. Assessment and taxation of all Crown commercial enterprises or payment in lieu of taxes of an amount equivalent to the amount of taxes.
3. Assessment and taxation of all buildings and improvements at full value in all municipalities.
4. The right to levy a Business Tax in municipal districts and improvement districts be discontinued.
5. The offset of Business Tax against the Improvement Tax where the owner of a building

- is carrying on a business in the same building, be discontinued.
6. The Business Tax on fur farms be discontinued.
  7. Repeal of the Wild Lands Tax Act.
  8. Repeal of the Crown Cultivation Leases Act.
  9. Additional school grant of \$1,650,000.
  10. A total minimum school grant of \$6,850,000.
  11. The additional grant of \$1,650,000 be distributed to school districts and school divisions, so as to approximate the support per pupil enrolled for each class of school district or school division.
  12. A committee to determine co-terminus boundaries for municipal districts and school divisions.
  13. A survey of defective school buildings.
  14. No charge be made on the municipalities for the support of Old Age and Blind Pensions.
  15. Distribution of the cost of indigent relief, including hospital and medical care on the basis of 20% to the municipalities and 80% to the Province.
  16. Deletion of "Rule 3" in the rules of interpretation for the determination of residence of indigents wherein it appears in the Town and Village Act, Municipal District Act, Improvement Districts Act and Hospitals Act. The care of such class of indigents to be a responsibility of the Province.
  17. The distributing of the cost of Mothers' allow-

ance on the basis of 20% to the municipalities and 80% to the Province.

18. The distribution of the cost of child welfare on the basis of 20% to the municipalities and 80% to the Province.
19. No charge be made to the municipalities for the care of a mental defective in an institution.
20. The distribution of the cost of erection and operation of any home for aged and infirm owned and operated by a municipality to be on the basis of 50% to the municipality and 50% to the Province.
21. The appointment of resident engineers for the purpose of assisting municipalities in matters of public works.
22. The appointment of a committee to classify municipal improvement districts for grant purposes.
23. The total amount of road grants in municipal districts and improvement districts approximate an amount equal to 25% of the revenue derived from the Motor Vehicle License and Fuel Oil Tax Acts.
24. All provincial highways located through towns and villages to be built and maintained by the Province.
25. Amendments to Statutes.
26. Appointment of a permanent Tax Commission.

These recommendations have been advanced for the study and consideration of all municipal bodies and interested organizations prior to their consideration at the next session of the Alberta Legislature toward implementation.

## **ALBERTA GOVERNMENT INSURANCE**

By entering the field of Fire and Life Insurance in competition with private companies, the Social Credit Government has brought about a substantial reduction in insurance premiums.

This is a splendid example of Public Enterprise as opposed to State Monopoly, because it:

1. Does not expropriate existing businesses.
2. Leaves the people with freedom of choice as to where they shall place their business.
3. Gives the people maximum protection at minimum cost.
4. Stabilizes premiums at a lower level with continuous benefits going to the people.

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### **RECORD OF GROWTH**

		<b>Losses Incurred (Before Reinsurance Recoveries Effectuated)</b>	
	<b>Business in Force At Year-End</b>		<b>Investment Reserves</b>
1939	\$ 1,008,342.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 34,553.70
1944	47,038,294.00	125,663.71	188,271.23
1947	101,998,505.00	202,644.57	335,089.73

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### **LIFE INSURANCE**

Having established itself in the field of Fire In-

insurance, the Life Department of the Alberta Government Insurance Office was started in 1942 for a three-fold purpose:

1. Lower costs to policy-holders.
2. Issue protection insurance plans.
3. Simplify policy wordings.

### **BUSINESS ISSUED**

1942	1945	1947
\$157,010.00	\$512,178.00	\$830,354.00

Marked progress was made by the Life Department during 1947. Sales continued to increase, and business placed at risk gained approximately 41% over the previous year, with business amounting to **\$2,726,141.00.**

\* \* \*

### ***Hail Insurance***

Prior to 1936 the old Alberta Hail Insurance Board operated at a loss. Rates were added to taxes of Municipalities which frequently were uncollectable until a debt of \$1,000,000 accumulated.

In 1937 under the Social Credit Government, a new board was set up with new policies. Rates were lowered and a minimum fee fixed of \$5 per acre.

#### **The Result**

	1942	1947
Reserve Fund .....	\$ 527,000	\$ 1,235,000

1947 saw the worst hail losses to Alberta farmers in 10 years.

5,500 claims filed.  
\$1,770,000 in claims paid.

ADDED PROTECTION given farmers in 1947 by legislation enabling board to give protection to crops **after** cutting and while lying in swath or bundle.

This was given **WITHOUT ANY INCREASE** in premium rate.

In 10 years, the board has **RETURNED** to farmers 73 cents out of every dollar collected in premiums. This will increase as the reserve fund reaches an adequate amount.

\* \* \*

## **SAVINGS TO THE MOTORISTS**

The reductions made in car license fees in 1937 by the Social Credit Government to cover cars manufactured eight years prior to January 1st of that year benefited thousands of car owners.

In 1944 the reduced rate schedule was changed to cover all cars with year models dating 10 or more years previous to the commencement of the license year, in which it was being registered. This schedule is still in effect today. During the 1948-49 license

year, all cars of models 1938 or prior thereto benefit by the reduced schedule.

**Refunds:**

1944-45	.....	\$ 4,874.05
1945-46	.....	12,445.55
1946-47	.....	20,146.00
1947-48	.....	25,019.25

This policy has meant a saving of many thousands of dollars to Alberta motorists.

In 1947 the Automobile Accident Indemnity Act was passed and the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund was set up. This fund provided for the payment of unsatisfied judgments for the bodily injury arising out of motor vehicle accidents.

The fund also provided for hospital expenses for injuries arising out of motor vehicle accidents, provided the person hospitalized was not solely to blame for the accident.

In 1948 the Act was amended to include payment from the fund for medical expenses for injuries arising out of motor vehicle accidents.

\* \* \*

## **DEBT LEGISLATION**

Debt Legislation has been passed by Alberta's Social Credit Government to protect the homes and businesses of honest citizens. Although some of this legislation was disallowed by the Federal Govern-



ment and some declared ultra vires, much has been achieved:

1. Homes and property were protected during the worst depression years.
2. Thousands of debts equitably adjusted by agreement between debtor and creditor.
3. More than 41,000 citizens of the Province received direct assistance to adjust their debts.
4. Over 1,100 debtors given free legal assistance in connection with foreclosure proceedings in court.
5. More than 1,000 soldiers received help under the Soldiers' Relief Act.
6. Many hundreds had debts adjusted by using the FREE services of the Debtors' Assistance Board established in 1943 to advise and assist debtors with FREE legal advice. This service is still available in Edmonton and Calgary today.

\* \* \*

#### **Debt Protection for the Farmer:**

The Judicature Act, Amendment Act, 1944, provided protection to the farmer who could not market his grain, due to lack of elevator space.

\* \* \*

#### **Debt Protection for the Soldier's Farm:**

The Wartime Moratorium Act, 1944, extends the debt protection given to farmers in the armed services to farmers who had a wife, husband, son or daughter in the armed services.

# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

## **MAIN AND SECONDARY HIGHWAYS**

### **MILES OF WORK DONE FROM MARCH 1936 TO MARCH 1948**

Reconditioned		Gravelled	Asphalt	Seal Coat
Grading	Grading			
1,922	844	4,207	1,149	645

**"Grading"** is construction of Standard Earth Grade to Highway Standards.

**"Recondition Grading"** is done when necessary to bring Highway up to standard prior to first course or replacement gravel surfacing.

**"Gravelled"** miles shown consist of first course and replacement gravel surfacing; it also includes the gravelling of highways where locations have been revised.

**"Asphalt"** miles include both "blotter" and light plant mix surfaced highways, most of which were later rebuilt with a six to nine-inch Stabilized Gravel Base and two-inch Hot Plant Mix Surface.

**"Seal Coat"** miles represent gravel chips and asphalt applied to seal Plant Mix surface.

## COMPARISON OF MAIN AND SECONDARY HIGHWAY MILEAGES

As at March 31, 1936 and March 31, 1948

Type	March 31 1936	March 31 1948	Difference
Graded (Earth) .....	767	221	--546
Gravelled .....	2,152	3,258	+1,106
Asphalt .....	92	645	+553
Total Miles .....	<u>3,011</u>	<u>4,124</u>	<u>+1,113</u>

## COMPARISON OF DISTRICT AND LOCAL ROAD MILEAGES

As at March 31, 1936 and March 31, 1948

Type	March 31 1936	March 31 1948	Difference
Ordinary Road .....	40,000	42,749	+ 2,749
Graded (Earth) ....	19,373	25,487	+ 6,114
Gravelled .....	Nil	7,596	+ 7,596
Total Miles:	<u>59,373</u>	<u>75,832</u>	<u>+ 16,459</u>

### Amount of Road Grants Paid to Municipal Districts:

1941-42 Fiscal Year .....	\$ 101,290.95
1944-45 Fiscal Year .....	\$ 468,944.73
1946-47 Fiscal Year .....	\$ 523,338.99
1947-48 Fiscal Year .....	\$1,038,207.68

## BRIDGE BUILDING RECORD

	March 1942	March 1948
Number Steel and Concrete Bridges .....	170	216
Number Timber Bridges .....	1,885	2,611
Total Bridges Built .....	2,055	2,827
Number of Bridges Repaired .....	1,509	2,192

# **GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA**

## **TREASURY BRANCHES**

(Established—September, 1938)

Ten years ago the Social Credit Government of Alberta established Treasury Branches to serve the people of Alberta.

The Treasury Branch system enables the people to pool their financial resources and to use these resources for their mutual benefit thereby enabling them to progressively free themselves from the stranglehold of the existing financial monopoly.

### **1947**

Number of Branches and Sub-Branches ....	59
Number of Agencies .....	120

---

Points served by Treasury Branch System 179

These Treasury Branches provide effective competition for chartered banks thereby ensuring banking services at reasonable rates. At some points the Treasury Branches provide the ONLY service available to the public.

#### **These services are provided:**

1. Savings and Current Accounts, with chequing facilities.

2. Loans on approved security.
3. Minimum interest rates.
4. Transmission of Funds (Drafts, and Money Orders).
5. Collection Services.
6. Travellers' Cheques.
7. Safety Deposit Boxes.
8. Cashing of Grain and Produce Tickets.
9. Automobile and Driver's Licences.

### **A Steadily Expanding Enterprise**

	1943	1947
Total Deposits .. \$	11,925,767	29,243,065
Total Savings ....	2,618,217	12,044,249
Total Turnover ..	176,055,638	393,619,672

### **Number of Savings and Deposit Accounts**

1943 .....	36,941
1947 .....	54,652

\* \* \*

## **ALBERTA'S NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **The Social Credit Government's Policy:**

1. No oil, mineral or timber bearing lands are sold. They are LEASED only for development on terms which ensure to the people of the Province a fair share of the returns from their natural resources WITHOUT gambling a cent of the taxpayers' money.

2. Private enterprise and initiative is encouraged. Monopoly control is blocked.
3. Land settlement policy, under which a settler has these guarantees:
  - a. Possesses the land under lease.
  - b. Government soil survey assures the land is fit for agricultural use.
  - c. Located within reasonable reach of school, medical and other facilities.
  - d. Pays no rent or taxes for the first three years.
  - e. Pays one-eighth of crops thereafter. No payment if year's average yield less than five bushels per acre.
  - f. No arrears of rent or taxes can accumulate because of poor crops.
  - g. Option to purchase outright for nominal sum at any time after five years.
  - h. The purchase price is reduced by one-fifth each year until the end of the 10th year when the lessee is given free title to the land.

This ensures the settler becoming properly established before investing all his capital in the land or incurring a heavy mortgage debt. He thus obtains the full benefit of the improvements and development work he performs.

\* \* \*

## OIL AND GAS

The policy of the Provincial Government is designed:

- 
1. To take all reasonable steps necessary to encourage orderly development to meet the ever increasing demand for petroleum products and to make Canada less dependent on other countries for these essential products.
  2. To insist that all development is carried on according to the best known engineering practices, thereby preventing waste and assuring the greatest ultimate recovery.
  3. To establish prospecting and leasing regulations designed to effectively prevent monopoly, and encourage individual enterprise. Only by the existence of wholesale rivalry where free and competitive enterprise is carried on, can we expect to get the most active development.
  4. To obtain for the people of the Province as a whole, a fair share of the returns resulting from the production of oil.
  5. To assure to the owner of surface rights fair and generous treatment in determining and awarding full and proper compensation for any loss, damage and inconvenience.

Following the setting up of the Conservation Board and giving it legal standing by the Social Credit Government in 1938, the wastage of gas was reduced and oil production increased.

**Production in Barrels:**

1922-1934 .....	8,353,460
1935-1947 .....	88,724,539

## **How Albertans Benefit:**

**Prior to 1941**—Maximum royalty from oil production on Crown Lands was 10 %.

**After 1941**—Royalty increased and placed on graduated scale with a maximum of 15 % and a minimum of 5 % dependent on average daily production with the option to the operator of paying 12½ % of gross production until 1951.

A mineral tax is imposed on all minerals held by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Hudson's Bay Company and other companies and also private owners. All such minerals were granted by the Federal Government during its administration of the natural resources.

Where minerals are in a producing area, they are assessed and taxed and such tax is in addition to the acreage tax referred to above.

\* \* \*

## **Oil is Vitally Needed**

The gradual decline in Turner Valley production in recent years is considerably offset by the discovery of the Leduc field which has now developed into a major producer.

At present, Alberta uses more oil than it produces and its production will have to be increased more than 10 times in order to take care of present requirements for all Canada.



The Social Credit Government is fully alive to the pressing need for greater oil production and is exploring every avenue to realize the enormous potentialities of the McMurray tar sands on a commercial basis.

The Government has already provided considerable sums to aid in the experimental work there. It also reserves the right to actively participate whenever sufficient data is obtained to justify such action.

\* \* \*

## **THE NATURAL GAS UTILITIES ACT**

### **Provided:**

1. The establishment of a Natural Gas Utilities Board.
2. Every producer in a Natural Gas Field is assured of an equitable share in the markets available.
3. Monopoly rights enjoyed exclusively by any one company declared null and void.
4. All existing contracts subject to review. (Municipal franchises excluded from these provisions.)
5. The waste of natural gas was prevented by restoring the excess to the underground formation.
6. All natural gas wells, pipe lines and scrubbing plants declared to be public utilities.

7. In the event of non-compliance with the Board's orders, the Government is empowered to take over in the interests of the people.

The system of leases practiced by the Social Credit Government PREVENTS MONOPOLY CONTROL in any field.

\* \* \*

## LANDS FOR OUR WAR VETERANS

Alberta is the First and Only Province to reserve lands for War Veterans **with no debt**; and with as little cash outlay as possible.

1. Twenty year lease is granted.
2. Surveys are made to determine the suitability of the land for farming.
3. Land is tax free for three years.
4. One-third of the crop grown for 7 years, or for a shorter period provided the crop shares paid equal the cost of clearing and breaking, qualify the veteran to obtain title.
5. Provision has been made to preserve trees for wood-lots; and also for windbreaks as a preventive measure against soil drifting and erosion.

Lessons learned by experience in the past are being utilized to provide a contented and secure future for the veterans.

## **PROTECTION OF FORESTS**

The Social Credit Government has outlined a comprehensive program for the protection of forests and has taken definite action in this regard.

Extensive areas have been set aside as permanent forested areas in which no settlement will be permitted and in which those engaged in lumbering operations will be required to follow a program of selective cutting and conservation.

Negotiations carried out with Dominion Government resulted in a conservation program for the entire eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains. Protection of this vast area will be carried out by a special board. The agreement will assure an adequate water supply for present and future Alberta irrigation projects, a source of timber for the Province's growing lumbering industry and protection for Alberta's fish and game life.

## **FISH AND GAME**

Legislation has been drafted and will be continually revised to assure the proper protection of fish and game for the benefit of future Albertans. Important phases of this work are the Beaver Policy including the placing of these animals where they are needed and the Fish Inspection Program, which ensures a satisfactory export market.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

Organized in June, 1945, to put into actual effect the recommendations of a special Post-War Reconstruction Committee.

Much of this special assignment already has been carried out. Of the 299 recommendations of the committee a total of 187 have been implemented. The remainder depend on joint action between the municipal, provincial and federal governments or entirely on action by the federal government.

IN ADDITION, this department is responsible for:

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
TOURIST PROMOTION  
TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT  
GOV'T PHOTOGRAPHY BRANCH  
PUBLICITY BRANCH  
HOUSING AID  
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES  
AND

This department during the past year has assumed direction of the establishment of an Alberta House in London, England, and a program of selective immigration from the United Kingdom. The scheme also will encourage British capital in the form of whole industrial units which are qualified to fit into Alberta's economy.

Trade statistics and industrial development facts:

## NEW INDUSTRIES INVEST \$20 MILLION IN 1947

New industries established or under construction in Alberta represented a capital investment of \$20,000,000 in 1947.

Requests for specific information concerning industrial opportunities have been received from more than 300 individuals or firms, largely as a result of the industrial promotion program inaugurated by the Province in 1947.

### \*   \*   \* GROSS PRODUCTION

	1934	1946	Increase	
Agr.cultural,				
Manufacturing				
Mining, etc.	\$255,549,707	750,000,000	494,450,293	193.49%
Construction:				
(contracts				
awarded	3,489,400	38,971,900	35,482,500	1,016.84%

### \*   \*   \* TRADE STATISTICS

	1934	1946	Increase	
Retail Sales	\$125,973,000	375,000,000	249,027,000	197.68%
Wholesale				
Sales .....	68,844,000	245,000,000	176,156,000	255.88%

### \*   \*   \* MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

	1934	1946	Increase	
Bank Clearings				
476,024,314	1,441,386,752	965,362,438	202.08%	
Bank Debits				
977,696,487	3,036,964,322	2,059,267,835	210.62%	
Customs Duty Receipts				
1,250,170	5,657,294	4,407,124	352.52%	

# **WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION**

## **IMPROVED**

1948 — Workmen's Compensation Legislation completely revised by Social Credit Government in line with recommendations of a special committee of the Legislature.

### **The Result:**

1. Waiting period reduced.
2. Provision made to include Municipal Districts.
3. Authority to speed reports.
4. Increased burial expenses allowed — \$125 to \$175.
5. Widow's pension raised from \$40 to \$50 per month.
6. Pension to dependent children raised from \$12 to \$15.
7. Pension to orphan children raised to \$25.
8. Increase in the minimum compensation from \$12.50 to \$15 per week.

9. Injured workmen given THE BEST of three alternatives in respect of permanent disability pension awards.
10. Wage ceiling raised from \$2,000 to \$2,500.
11. Provision for additional safety inspectors.
12. Additional benefits for dependent children making satisfactory progress in school.
13. Silicosis claims accepted irrespective of length of time of exposure when all exposures in Alberta.
14. Health benefits in case of illness provided, amounting to \$15 a month for a widow and \$10 a month for each dependent child.
15. Domestic servants and farm labourers can be covered.
16. Special Act for Blind Workmen.

**All these changes were made in the interests of the injured workman and his dependents AT NO COST to the workman.**

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